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Item 3 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda and annotations

Note by the secretariat

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I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. The provisional agenda presented for adoption is as follows:

1. Election of the President.

2. Election of other officers.

3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

4. Credentials of delegations.

5. Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers.

6. Programme and budget:

(a) Need for, modalities for, costs involved and feasibility of the regional coordination units;

(b) Proposal on the ways of improving the budgeting and reporting process;

(c) Performance report of the Convention's trust funds in 1999;

(d) Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in 1999;

(e) Audited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds in 1999;

(f) Performance report of the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 June 2000;

(g) Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 June 2000;

(h) Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 November 2000.

7. Implementation of the Convention:

(a) Review of reports on implementation of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including on the participatory process, and on experience gained and results achieved in the preparation and implementation of national action programmes;

(b) Review of the report on progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in regions other than Africa;

(c) Review of reports by developed country Parties on measures taken to assist in the preparation and implementation of action programmes of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including information on financial resources they have provided, or are providing, under the Convention;

(d) Review of information provided by organs, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, on their activities in support of the preparation and implementation of action programmes under the Convention;

(e) Review of available information regarding the financing of the implementation of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b), of the Convention;

(f) Review of the report of the secretariat on progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention;

(g) Review of the report of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism on their role and results obtained in facilitation consultative processes to negotiate and elaborate partnership agreements based on national, subregional and regional action programmes;

(h) Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention;

(i) Consideration of an additional regional implementation annex to the Convention, with a view to adopting one;

(j) Consideration of a draft declaration on the commitment to enhance the implementation of the obligations of the Convention.

8. Committee on Science and Technology:

(a) Review, pursuant to article 24, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it;

(b) Consideration of those specific conclusions and recommendations made by the Committee on Science and Technology relating to affected country Parties' experiences and constraints in the implementation of action programmes;

(c) Maintenance of the roster of experts;

(d) Creation of an ad hoc panel or panels of experts, if necessary, with their terms of reference.

9. Global Mechanism:

(a) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report on policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it;

(b) Review, pursuant to the same article, of the report of the Global Mechanism on its operational strategy.

10. Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies.

11. Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue sessions.

12. Outstanding items:

(a) Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure;

(b) Consideration of procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention, with a view to deciding how to take this matter forward;

(c) Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6, of the Convention.

13. Programme of work for the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties.

14. Report of the session.

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Introduction

Venue

2. By its decision 22/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided that the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 4) should be held at the site of the Convention secretariat in the event that no Party made an offer to host that session and meet the additional financial cost. The session will be opened by the Executive Secretary at the International Congress Centre Bundeshaus at Bonn, Germany, on Monday, 11 December 2000.

Logistic arrangements

3. A few weeks before the opening of COP 4, the secretariat will distribute an information note detailing registration and security procedures, as well as other logistic arrangements for the session.

Participants

4. In accordance with article 36, paragraph 2, of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), for each State or regional economic integration organization which ratifies, accepts or approves the Convention or accedes thereto after the deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention enters into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit with the Depositary of the relevant instrument. Consequently, the Parties as of the opening of COP 4 on 11 December will be the States and regional economic integration organizations that have deposited their instruments by 12 September 2000. Those that deposit their instruments after 12 September 2000 and by 23 September 2000 will become Parties during COP 4. Those that do so after 23 September 2000 will not become Parties until after the closure of the session but can participate in the session as observers, along with United Nations specialized agencies, accredited intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. Relevant information on the status of ratifications is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/INF.2.

Agenda

5. By its decision 4/COP.3, the COP decided to include in the agenda for its fourth session certain selected items and other standing items on its agenda. These have been taken into account in the provisional agenda prepared for COP 4, in addition to issues arising from other decisions.

Documentation

6. A list of documents for the session and other documents of relevance is provided in annex I. In addition to normal distribution, official COP 4 documents as well as full reports from country Parties will be made available on the secretariat's World Wide Web site at the following address on the Internet: http://www.unccd.int.

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[1] For decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its third session, see ICCD/COP(3)/20/Add.1.

1. Election of the President

7. Rule 22 of the rules of procedure adopted by the COP (decision 1/COP.1[1] as amended by decision 20/COP.2[2]) provides for the election of the President from among the representatives of the Parties present at the session. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary will call for the election of the President.

2. Election of other officers

8. Pursuant to rule 22 of the rules of procedure (as amended by decision 20/COP.2), nine Vice-Presidents and the Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology, who, with the President, are to serve as the Bureau of the session, shall be elected from the representatives of the Parties present at the session, in a manner that every geographical region shall be represented by at least two members. The President will call for the election of these officers.

3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

9. The COP will have before it the provisional agenda (see section I, above) to consider for adoption. A tentative schedule of work for the session, on which the subsections below elaborate, is contained in annex II.

Purpose of the session

10. The Conference of the Parties, at its third session, adopted a decision on its programme of work (decision 4/COP.3), which included standing as well as selected items for discussion at COP 4. These items have been incorporated in the provisional agenda. The Convention provides, in article 22, paragraph 3(a), that the COP shall regularly review the implementation of the Convention and the functioning of its institutional arrangements. The organization of work of the session is designed to facilitate such activities, focusing attention on outstanding issues requiring resolution.

Opening meeting

11. As to the structure of the opening plenary, the COP may wish to consider the following scenario. The President would make a statement after his or her election. Statements would be made on behalf of regional groups, to be followed by an opportunity for statements by representatives of United Nations agencies and other intergovernmental organizations and one representative of non-governmental organizations. The Executive Secretary would then present an overview of issues before COP 4, introduce the documents prepared by the secretariat, and present a status report on ratifications of, or accessions to, the Convention.

Establishment of a Committee of the Whole and allocation of its tasks

12. The practice followed at the previous sessions of the Conference of the Parties was to establish a sessional Committee of the Whole (COW), chaired by a Vice-President of the COP and open to participation of all delegations. This could be done at COP 4. The Committee of the Whole would recommend decisions on outstanding issues for adoption by the COP. Its Chair would have the authority to delegate work, as appropriate, to drafting groups. Accordingly,

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[1] For decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its first session, see ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1.

[2] For decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its second session, see ICCD/COP(2)/14/Add.1.

the COP may wish to establish a Committee of the Whole at its opening plenary and to designate its Chair. The COP could allocate to the Committee of the Whole the following items: adjustments to the programme and budget for the biennium; programme of work of the ad hoc working group to review reports submitted by Parties; consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to review the implementation of the Convention; consideration of an additional regional implementation annex; consideration of a draft declaration on commitments to enhance the implementation of the Convention; the rule of procedure not yet agreed upon, referred to below; procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions of implementation; consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures; and any other issue.

Committee on Science and Technology

13. The Committee on Science and Technology (CST) is tentatively scheduled to meet from 12 to 14 December. In accordance with decision 14/COP.3, the secretariat has prepared ICCD/COP(4)/CST/1 containing a provisional annotated agenda for the Committee's work, as well as other documents needed for its deliberations, which are listed in annex I.

Initial segment

14. It is proposed in the tentative schedule that COP 4 be divided into two segments. During the initial segment from 11 to 21 December, in addition to the CST meeting, the Committee of the Whole would initiate its work in accordance with the agenda of the COP.

15. The ad hoc working group on the review of the implementation of the Convention, established by decision 4/COP.3, is tentatively scheduled to meet from 11 to 15 December 2000.

16. The plenary would meet on 21 December to hear reports from the Committee of the Whole and the CST, to take all possible decisions on issues before the COP, to review the organization of work for the second week, and to provide for further meetings of the Committee of the Whole as appropriate.

Special segment on Convention implementation

17. At the special segment on 18 and 19 December, Parties with representation at the appropriate level would have an opportunity to review and make statements on the implementation of the Convention.

18. Decision 11/COP.1 provides that reports by Parties, together with advice and information provided by the Committee on Science and Technology and the Global Mechanism consistent with their respective mandates and such other reports as the Conference of the Parties may call for, shall constitute the basis of the review of the implementation by the Conference of the Parties.

19. By its decision 4/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties decided to review, at its fourth session, the reports on implementation of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa. In accordance with decision 11/COP.1, the secretariat prepared a compilation of summaries and a synthesis of the reports received from Parties, setting out the trends emerging in the implementation of the Convention.

20. By decision 4/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties decided to review also the implementation of the Convention, on the basis of submissions made by the developed country Parties, by United Nations organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on their activities in support of the

preparation of action programmes, which would also be undertaken during the special segment. A compilation and a synthesis of such submissions prepared by the secretariat are contained in FCCC/COP(4)/3/Add.4 and FCCC/COP(4)/3/Add.5.

21. The review of the report from the ad hoc working group on the review of the implementation of the Convention could also be undertaken during the special segment. The special segment could take decisions on any issues remaining outstanding after the first week.

Parallel event

22. An interparliamentary round table on the contribution parliaments can make to the implementation of the Convention is planned for 12 and 13 December 2000. It would involve the participation of parliamentarians from a number of countries. It is anticipated that any outcome from the round table would be communicated to the COP for consideration.

Concluding plenary

23. The concluding plenary of COP 4 will take any decisions not previously adopted. It will also have before it for adoption the report on credentials to be submitted by the Bureau. Finally, it will decide upon the date and venue of the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties, taking account of:

(a) Article 22, paragraph 4, of the Convention, which provides that, unless otherwise decided by the COP, the second, third and fourth ordinary sessions shall be held yearly, and thereafter, ordinary sessions shall be held every two years;

(b) Rule 4, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, which provides that, at each ordinary session, the COP shall decide on the date and duration of the next ordinary session and that the COP should endeavour not to hold such sessions at a time which would make the attendance of a significant number of delegations difficult;

(c) Rule 3 of the rules of procedure, which states that the sessions of the COP shall take place at the seat of the secretariat, unless the COP decides otherwise or other appropriate arrangements are made by the secretariat in consultation with the Parties;

(d) Decision 1/COP.2, which provides that the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties shall take place in the year 2001, and that, thereafter, ordinary sessions shall be held every two years;

(e) Any offers to host the fifth session and cover the incremental costs thereof.

24. The proposed schedule allows for the concluding plenary on 22 December. Accordingly, all negotiations should be concluded by 21 December.

Times of meetings

25. The tentative schedule aims to make the best use of the facilities available during normal working hours. No scheduling or budgetary provision has been made for evening or weekend sessions. Consistent with local working hours and to avoid incurring overtime expenses, the normal working hours of COP 4 will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. No provision has been made for more than two meetings to be held with interpretation services at any one time.

4. Credentials of delegations

26. Rule 19 of the rules of procedure provides: "The credentials of representatives as well as the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Permanent Secretariat if possible not later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the session. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the Permanent Secretariat. The credentials shall be issued either by the head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization." Rule 20 of the rules of procedure provides: "The Bureau of any session shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the Conference of the Parties for decision." In addition, rule 21 provides: "Representatives shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the session, pending a decision by the Conference of the Parties to accept their credentials."

5. Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers

27. Article 22, paragraph 7 of the Convention provides: "The United Nations, its specialized agencies and any State member thereof or observers thereto not Party to the Convention, may be represented at sessions of the Conference of the Parties as observers. Any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, which is qualified in matters covered by the Convention, and which has informed the Permanent Secretariat of its wish to be represented at a session of the Conference of the Parties as an observer, may be so admitted unless at least one third of the Parties present object." Rule 7 of the rules of procedure contains provisions to similar effect.

28. Decision 26/COP.1 contains provisions on accrediting non-governmental organizations and according observer status to intergovernmental organizations to the first and subsequent sessions of the COP. In accordance with these procedures, a list of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations newly proposed for accreditation at the COP is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/9.

6. Programme and budget

29. The Convention, in article 22, paragraph 2(g), calls on the Conference of the Parties to approve a programme and budget for its activities, including those of its subsidiary bodies, and to undertake necessary arrangements for their financing. At its third session, the COP approved the revised core budget of the Convention for the biennium 2000-2001 and requested the Executive Secretary to propose to COP 4 any adjustments that might be needed. The Executive Secretary will submit information in due course on any adjustments that may be needed to the Convention's programme and budget as adopted by decision 9/COP.3.

(a) Need for, modalities for, costs involved and feasibility of the regional coordination units

30. By the decision 9/COP.3, the Executive Secretary was requested to report to the COP on the need for, feasibility of, and modalities for regional coordination units and the costs involved, with a view to enabling the Conference of the Parties to take a decision. The report of the Executive Secretary is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.1.

(b) Proposal on the ways of improving the budgeting and reporting process

31. By the same decision, the Executive Secretary was also requested to submit a proposal on how the budgeting and reporting process could be improved. The report of the Executive Secretary is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.2.

(c) Performance report of the Convention's trust funds in 1999

32. By decision 5/COP.3, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to report on the financial performance of the Convention budget. The report of the Executive Secretary is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.3.

(d) Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in 1999

(e) Audited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds in 1999

(f) Performance report of the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 June 2000

(g) Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 June 2000

(h) Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 November 2000

33. Information on the utilization of the supplementary fund is provided in ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.4, while similar information for the biennium 2000-2001 is provided in ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.8. The final audited financial statement for the trust funds in 1999 is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.5. The status of the contributions to the trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 November 2000 is presented in ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.9.

34. Pursuant to resolution 52/194 of 18 December 1997 of the General Assembly of the United Nations, which endorsed the institutional linkage between the UNCCD secretariat and the Secretariat of the United Nations, the Secretary-General made a proposal to institute a transitional arrangement for administrative support to the secretariat of UNCCD for 1998-2000. Decision 3/COP.1 provides that, in order for the secretariat to enjoy the administrative and financial autonomy necessary to ensure efficient servicing of the Convention and its implementation, it should not be fully integrated into the work programme and management structure of any particular department or programme of the United Nations. By the same decision, the Conference of the Parties decided to review these arrangements no later than at its fourth session, in consultation with the Secretary-General, with a view to making such modifications as may be considered desirable by both parties. ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.6 contains the report on the performance of the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001 as at 30 June 2000 and the report on the administrative support provided to UNCCD by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

V. Implementation of the Convention

35. Pursuant to article 22, paragraphs 2(a) and 2(b), and article 26, of the Convention, the COP is to review implementation of the UNCCD and its institutional arrangements. Participants will have an opportunity to conduct such a review during the special segment on Convention implementation.

36. By its decision 6/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties decided to establish an ad hoc working group to review and analyse in depth, at the fourth session, reports submitted at its third session and reports that will be submitted at its fourth session in order to draw conclusions and propose concrete recommendations on further steps in the implementation of the Convention. By the same decision, the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD was requested to make all necessary arrangements for the above-mentioned ad hoc working group to fulfil its mandate and to meet at the fourth session.

(c) *Review of reports on implementation of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including on the participatory process, and on experience gained and results achieved in the preparation and implementation of national action programmes*

37. By its decision 8/COP.3, the COP decided to review, at its fourth session, the reports of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa. In accordance with procedures detailed in decision 11/COP.1, the secretariat has compiled a summary of such reports and a synthesis setting out the trends emerging in the implementation of the Convention. These are contained in ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.1, ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.2 and ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.3.

(d) *Review of the report on progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in regions other than Africa*

38. By the same decision, 8/COP.3, the COP also decided to consider at its fourth session the progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in regions other than Africa. The relevant information is contained in the annexes to ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.1, ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.2 and ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.3.

(e) *Review of reports by developed country Parties on measures taken to assist in the preparation and implementation of action programmes of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including information on financial resources they have provided, or are providing, under the Convention*

39. By its decision 4/COP.3, the COP decided to review the measures undertaken by developed country Parties in assisting the preparation and implementation of action programmes of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa. A compilation of reports received from developed country Parties is provided in ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.4.

(f) *Review of information provided by organs, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, on their activities in support of the preparation and implementation of action programmes under the Convention*

40. By the same decision, 8/COP.3, the COP decided to review the activities of United Nations organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in support of the preparation and implementation of action programmes. The secretariat has prepared ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.5, which contains the information provided by such organizations.

(g) *Review of available information regarding the financing of the implementation of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b), of the Convention*

41. By its decision 9/COP.1, the COP decided to include, as a standing item on its agenda, a review of available information on the financing of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b). The information received by the secretariat is compiled in ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.5.

42. There will also be an opportunity during the special segment on Convention implementation for agencies and institutions to give information on the support

they have provided, including financial support, to affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention by those Parties.

(f) Review of the report of the secretariat on progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention

43. Decision 5/COP.3 requested the secretariat to provide for the forthcoming sessions of the Conference of the Parties a synthesis by each subregion, with the aim of elaborating a comparative document on the progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention. The information provided is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.1, ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.2 and ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.3, while ICCD/COP(4)/3 provides information on the secretariat's activities in assisting developing country Parties in the implementation of the Convention at subregional and regional levels.

(g) Review of the report of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism on their role and results obtained in facilitating consultative processes to negotiate and conclude partnership agreements based on national, subregional and regional action programmes

44. By its decision 5/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD and the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism, in conformity with the provisions of the Convention, to effectively assist affected African country Parties, upon request, in facilitating the convocation of consultative processes in order to negotiate and conclude partnership agreements based on national, subregional and regional action programmes. The Executive Secretary of the UNCCD and the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism were also requested to report at each session on their role to facilitate these processes and the results obtained. Their report is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.6.

(h) Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention

45. By its decision 6/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties and other interested institutions and organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to submit written proposals and suggestions on the need for the establishment of a committee to review the implementation of the Convention, in order to further develop the existing review system and to consider and take a decision on this issue at its fourth session and, if necessary, at its fifth session. The secretariat was further requested to compile, summarize and circulate these submissions, so as to facilitate consideration from the COP, and these are contained in ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.7.

(i) Consideration of an additional regional implementation annex to the Convention, with a view to adopting it

46. By its decision 7/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties invited the countries of central and eastern Europe to continue, under the auspices of the Bureau of the COP, the process of consultations on the draft additional regional implementation annex, with a view to adopting it at its fourth session. In accordance with articles 31 and 32 of the Convention, the draft annex is before the COP for adoption, and it is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.8.

(j) Consideration of a draft declaration on the commitments to enhance the implementation of the obligations of the Convention

47. By its decision 8/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties stressed the necessity to formulate, for consideration and adoption at its fourth session, a declaration on the commitments to enhance implementation of the obligations of the Convention and invited all Parties, relevant international and non-governmental organizations to submit written proposals and/or suggestions for the text of the declaration. By the same decision, the Executive Secretary

was requested to take appropriate action for the formulation of a draft declaration and to circulate it, together with a compilation and a synthesis of submissions received from Parties. This is presented in ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.9 for discussion and any action the COP may wish to take.

8. Committee on Science and Technology

(a) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it

48. Pursuant to decision 9/COP.1, the review of the CST report constitutes a standing item on the agenda of the COP. The report of the Committee will describe the CST work programme for the period after COP 4. The CST will also be transmitting to the COP draft decisions resulting from the deliberations at its fourth session. The COP may wish to discuss the programme of work, make suggestions for its revision and provide any necessary guidance to the CST.

(b) Consideration of some specific conclusions and recommendations made by the Committee on Science and Technology relating to affected country Parties' experiences and constraints in the implementation of action programmes

49. Decision 11/COP.1 provides that the reports by Parties, together with advice and information provided by the CST and the Global Mechanism in accordance with their respective mandates, and such other reports as the Conference of the Parties may call for, will constitute the basis of the review of the implementation by the Conference of the Parties. The secretariat prepared ICCD/COP(4)/CST/5 to facilitate the review of reports from country Parties by the CST.

(c) Maintenance of the roster of experts

50. The Convention, in article 24, paragraph 2, provides that the COP will establish and maintain a roster of independent experts with expertise and experience in the relevant fields. Procedures related to the establishment and maintenance of a roster of independent experts were adopted by the COP by decision 18/COP.1. By decisions 13/COP.2 and 15/COP.3, Parties were invited to supplement their submissions to the secretariat for inclusion in the roster to ensure that under-represented areas were addressed, in particular by: (a) making the roster more balanced in terms of gender; and (b) ensuring better representation of relevant disciplines. By decision 15/COP.3 the Parties and the secretariat were also requested to inform the CST on the use that has been made of the roster of independent experts. The updated roster and the report on the use made of it are contained in ICCD/COP(4)/5 and Add.1. In accordance with decision 13/COP.2, the roster is being made available also in electronic form on the secretariat World Wide Web site at the following address: http://www.unccd.int/cop/cst/search.php.

(d) Creation of an ad hoc panel or panels of experts, if necessary, with their terms of reference

51. Article 24, paragraph 3, of the UNCCD provides for the creation of ad hoc panels as necessary by the Conference of the Parties. By decisions 12/COP.3 and 14/COP.3, the COP appointed an ad hoc panel on traditional knowledge and an ad hoc panel on early warning systems. After considering the report of the CST, the COP may wish to consider appointing ad hoc panels, including reappointing those already established, as necessary, in accordance with the procedures contained in decision 17/COP.1 for the establishment of ad hoc panels.

9. Global Mechanism

(a) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, the report on policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it

52. By its decision 9/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties requested the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism to report at the fourth session on the activities undertaken, including progress in implementing the recommendations contained in the same decision. The report from the Global Mechanism is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/4.

53. By the same decision, the COP invited the Facilitation Committee of the Global Mechanism to explore the possibility of inviting a representative of non-governmental organizations to attend its meetings and to report to the Conference of the Parties on the decision taken on this issue. The Managing Director of the Global Mechanism was further requested to report to the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session on the activities undertaken by the Facilitation Committee, the decisions taken and results obtained in implementing them. The information on these issues is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/4/Add.2.

(b) Review, pursuant to the same article, of the report of the Global Mechanism on its operational strategy

54. By decision 9/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties decided to give further consideration to the operational strategy of the Global Mechanism at its fourth session and requested its Managing Director to prepare a document on the operational strategy based on comments, suggestions and proposals made during the third session, as well as on written submissions received by the Parties, and to submit that document for consideration with a compendium of submissions.

55. By the same decision, the COP also recommended that the Global Mechanism develop, as part of the operational strategy for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session, an information and communication strategy that would aim to facilitate contact with Parties and other actors, increase awareness of the Convention and promote participation in its implementation. The report from the Global Mechanism on its operational strategy is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/4/Add.1.

10. Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies

56. Pursuant to decision 9/COP.1, the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other conventions in accordance with article 8 and article 22, paragraph 2(i), of the Convention shall be included as a standing item on the agenda of the Conference of the Parties.

57. By its decision 17/COP.3, the Executive Secretary was requested to report to the fourth session on the implementation of the different recommendations contained in the same decision, 17/COP.3, bearing in mind the relevant resolutions and/or decisions of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The report of the Executive Secretary is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/6.

11. Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue sessions

58. By decision 27/COP.1, the COP requested that additional open dialogue sessions organized by non-governmental organizations be included within the

official programme of work of future sessions of the COP, and that the secretariat of the Convention make every effort to facilitate inclusion of at least two such half-day sessions within the official programme of work. Such sessions would be organized in consultation with the secretariat and the Bureau of the COP through the President. Half-day sessions have been tentatively scheduled for the mornings of 19 and 20 December 2000.

12. Outstanding items

(a) Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure

59. Article 22, paragraph 2(e), of the Convention, provides that the Conference of the Parties shall "agree upon and adopt, by consensus, rules of procedure ... for itself and any subsidiary bodies". At its first session, by decision 1/COP.1, the COP adopted its rules of procedure, with the exception of some paragraphs contained in rules 22, 31 and 47. The text of rules 22 and 31 was amended by decision 20/COP.2. By decision 21/COP.2, the COP decided also to further consider paragraph 1 of rule 47 of the rules of procedure, not yet agreed upon, and the text resulting from this decision was provided in the annex to ICCD/COP(3)/19.

60. By its decision 19/COP.3, the President of the third session of the Conference of the Parties was requested to continue consultations on this outstanding issue and to report to the COP at its fourth session on the results of his consultations. This is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/7.

(b) Consideration of procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention, with a view to deciding how to take this matter forward

(c) Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6, of the Convention

61. By decision 20/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties decided, in accordance with articles 27 and 28 of the Convention, to convene during its fourth session an open-ended ad hoc group of experts to examine and make recommendations, taking into account ICCD/COP(3)/7 and 19, and in the light of the progress of the negotiations on the same matters in other environmental conventions, on procedures for the resolution of questions of implementation and annexes on arbitration and conciliation procedures. The open-ended group of experts is tentatively scheduled to meet on 20 and 21 December 2000.

62. By the same decision, the COP invited Parties to communicate their views on how to take this matter forward and requested the secretariat to compile these views for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session. The secretariat was further requested to update the information contained in the reports submitted to the COP at its third session, as necessary, to reflect the progress achieved in this area in other relevant conventions, and to prepare new documents for consideration at its fourth session. The report of the secretariat is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/7.

13. Programme of work for the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties

63. Pursuant to decision 11/COP.1 on procedures for the communication of information and review of implementation, the Conference of the Parties is to examine, at its fifth session, the reports of affected African country Parties.

64. By decision 4/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties decided to include in the agenda of its fifth session the adoption of the programme and budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

65. In accordance with decision 9/COP.1, the Conference of the Parties may wish to review the programme of work for the next session as appropriate.

14. Report of the session

66. A draft report of the session will be prepared for adoption at the final plenary, in accordance with established practice. The COP is invited to authorize the Rapporteur to complete the final report after the session, with the assistance of the secretariat and under the guidance of the President.

Annex I

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Documents available at the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties:

Document symbol	Title or description
ICCD/COP(4)/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work - Provisional agenda and annotations
ICCD/COP(4)/2	Programme and budget
ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.1	Programme and budget - Addendum - Need for, modalities for, costs involved and feasibility of the regional coordination units
ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.2	Programme and budget - Addendum - Proposal on the ways of improving the budgeting and reporting process
ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.3	Programme and budget - Addendum - Performance report of the Convention's trust funds in 1999
ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.4	Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in 1999
ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.5	Programme and budget - Addendum - Audited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds in 1999: report of the United Nations Board of Auditors
ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.6	Programme and budget - Addendum - Performance report of the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 June 2000 and current administrative arrangements with the United Nations
ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.7	Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 June 2000
ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.8	Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 November 2000
ICCD/COP(4)/3	Implementation of the Convention - Review of the report of the secretariat on progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.1	Implementation of the Convention - Reports on implementation of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including on the participatory process and on experience gained and results achieved in the preparation and implementation of national action programmes - Review of the report on progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in regions other than Africa (Asia)

Document symbol	Title or description
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.2	Implementation of the Convention - Reports on implementation of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including on the participatory process and on experience gained and results achieved in the preparation and implementation of national action programmes - Review of the report on progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in regions other than Africa (Latin America and the Caribbean)
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.3	Implementation of the Convention - Reports on implementation of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including on the participatory process and on experience gained and results achieved in the preparation and implementation of national action programmes - Review of the report on progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in regions other than Africa (Northern Mediterranean and other affected country Parties)
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.4	Implementation of the Convention - Reports by developed country Parties on measures taken to assist in the preparation and implementation of action programmes, including information on financial resources they have provided, or are providing, under the Convention
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.5	Implementation of the Convention - Review of information provided by organs, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, on their activities in support of the preparation and implementation of action programmes under the Convention - Review of available information regarding the financing of the implementation of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.6	Implementation of the Convention - Review of the report of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism on their role and results obtained in facilitating consultative processes to negotiate and conclude partnership agreements based on national, subregional and regional action programmes
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.7	Implementation of the Convention - Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.8	Implementation of the Convention - Consideration of an additional regional implementation annex to the Convention, with a view to adopting it

Document symbol	Title or description
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.9	Implementation of the Convention - Consideration of a draft declaration on the commitments to enhance the implementation of the obligations of the Convention
ICCD/COP(4)/4	Global Mechanism - Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d) of the Convention, of the report on policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it
ICCD/COP(4)/4/Add.1	Global Mechanism - Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d) of the Convention, of the report on policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it - Addendum - Report on the operational strategy of the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(4)/4/Add.2	Global Mechanism - Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d) of the Convention, of the report on policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it - Addendum - Report of the Facilitation Committee of the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(4)/5	Maintenance of the Roster of experts
ICCD/COP(4)/5/Add.1	Maintenance of the Roster of experts - Addendum
ICCD/COP(4)/6	Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies
ICCD/COP(4)/7	Outstanding items - Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure
ICCD/COP(4)/8	Outstanding items - Consideration of procedure and institutional mechanism for the resolution of questions of implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention, with a view to deciding how to take this matter forward - Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6 of the Convention
ICCD/COP(4)/9	Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers
ICCD/COP(4)/10	Credential of delegations: report of the Bureau to the COP
ICCD/COP(4)/INF.1	Arrangements for the fourth session of the Conference of the parties - Preliminary information for participants
ICCD/COP(4)/INF.2	Status of ratification of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
ICCD/COP(4)/INF.3	Preliminary list of UNCCD directory of focal points (as of 30 November 2000)

Document symbol	Title or description
ICCD/COP(4)/INF.4	List of participants
ICCD/COP(4)/INF.5	Latin American and the Caribbean First National Report Database
ICCD/COP(4)/INF.6	Assessment of the status of land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas

Documents available at the fourth session of the Committee on Science and Technology:

ICCD/COP(4)/CST/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: Provisional agenda and annotations
ICCD/COP(4)/CST/2	Traditional knowledge - Report of the ad hoc panel
ICCD/COP(4)/CST/3	Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies
ICCD/COP(4)/CST/4	Early warning systems - Report of the ad hoc panel
ICCD/COP(4)/CST/5	Synthesis of scientific and technical information contained in the reports from country Parties, in particular on benchmarks and indicators, for review by the CST

Other documents:

Third session of the Conference of the Parties

ICCD/COP(3)/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
ICCD/COP(3)/2	Programme and budget for the biennium 2000-2001
ICCD/COP(3)/3	Programme and budget: review of the situation as regards to the Supplementary Fund, Special Fund and Bonn Fund
ICCD/COP(3)/3/Add.1	Programme and budget: review of the situation as regards to the Supplementary Fund, Special Fund and Bonn Fund
ICCD/COP(3)/4	Financial performance of 1999 budget (January-June)
ICCD/COP(3)/5	Review of the implementation of the Convention, including support to regional action programmes
ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.1	Reports by developed country Parties on measures taken to assist affected African country Parties in the preparation and implementation of action programmes
ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.2	Reports on implementation of the Convention by affected African country Parties
ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.3	Information provided by United Nations organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on their support to the preparation and implementation of action programmes in Africa

Document symbol	Title or description
ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.4	Assistance provided by the secretariat to developing country Parties in preparation of national reports
ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.5	Progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in Africa
ICCD/COP(3)/6	Medium-term strategy of the secretariat (revised)
ICCD/COP(3)/7	Procedures for resolution of questions, arbitration and conciliation
ICCD/COP(3)/8	Headquarters agreement with the Government of Germany
ICCD/COP(3)/9	Collaboration with other international bodies and conventions
ICCD/COP(3)/9/Add.1	Relations between the secretariat and the Global Environment Facility
ICCD/COP(3)/10	Revised draft memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the International Fund for Agricultural Development
ICCD/COP(3)/11	Report on policies, operational strategy, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(3)/12	Report by IFAD on collaboration with non-governmental organizations and other organizations, including the private sector
ICCD/COP(3)/13	Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure
ICCD/COP(3)/14	Roster of independent experts: note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(3)/14/Add.1	Roster of independent experts
ICCD/COP(3)/15	List of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations recommended for accreditation as observers
ICCD/COP(3)/15/Add.1	List of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations recommended for accreditation as observers - addendum
ICCD/COP(3)/16	Draft additional regional implementation annex to the Convention for central and eastern European countries
ICCD/COP(3)/17	Establishment of additional procedures and/or institutional mechanisms to review the implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(3)/18	Procedure and institutional mechanism for the resolution of questions that may arise with regard to implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(3)/19	Credentials of delegations: report of the Bureau to the COP

Document symbol	Title or description
ICCD/COP(3)/20	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its third session: Proceedings
ICCD/COP(3)/20/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its third session: Action taken
ICCD/COP(3)/INF.1	Preliminary information for participants
ICCD/COP(3)/INF.2	Extrabudgetary funds: summary report 1993-1998 (update of document ICCD/COP(2)/INF.2)
ICCD/COP(3)/INF.3	UNCCD National Reports Help Guide
ICCD/COP(3)/INF.4	Status of ratification of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
ICCD/COP(3)/INF.5	UNCCD directory of focal points
ICCD/COP(3)/INF.6	List of participants
ICCD/COP(3)/MISC.1	Traditional knowledge

Third session of the Committee on Science and Technology

ICCD/COP(3)/CST/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work of the CST
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/2	Synthesis on important and widely applied traditional knowledge on a subregional and regional basis and on a national scale
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/3	Report by the ad hoc panel on traditional knowledge
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/3/Add.1	Linkage of the work of UNCCD on traditional knowledge with that of related conventions
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/3/Add.2	Report on traditional knowledge in dryland ecosystems
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/4	Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/5	Other bodies performing work similar to that envisaged for the CST: potential areas of cooperation between UNCCD and other bodies
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/6	Report on existing experiences of early warning systems and on specialized institutions acting in this field

Second session of the Conference of the Parties

ICCD/COP(2)/14	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its second session: Proceedings
ICCD/COP(2)/14/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its second session: Action taken

First session of the Conference of the Parties

Document symbol	Title or description
ICCD/COP(1)/11	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its first session: Proceedings
ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its first session: Action taken

Annex II

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF WORK

MONDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2000		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	*3 p.m. - 6 p.m.*
P L E N A R Y	**Informal Consultations**	1. Opening of the Conference by Executive Secretary of UNFCCC 2. Election of President of COP 3. Statement by the President 4. Statement by Under-Secretary-General on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations 5. Statement by the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations 6. Statement by the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization 7. Statement by the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development 8. Statement by the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility 9. Statements by other heads of United Nations agencies and programmes and executive secretaries of convention secretariats 10. Statement by representative of non-governmental organizations 11. Statement by Executive Secretary of UNFCCC 12. Adoption of the agenda *(FCCC/COP(4)/1)* 13. Election of other officers, including Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology 14. Adoption of organization of work and establishment of Committee of the Whole *(FCCC/COP(4)/2)* 15. Admission of observers and accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations *(FCCC/COP(4)/3)* 16. Other statements by Parties and observers
C O W	- - -	• Organization of work including review of outstanding items Implementation of the Convention: - Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the COP in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention *(FCCC/COP(4)/3/Add.7)*

MONDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2000, cont'd		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
CST	- - -	- - -
AHWG*	- - -	- - -
AHGE**	- - -	- - -

* ad hoc working group established by decision 6/COP.3
** open-ended ad hoc group of experts established by decision 2/COP.3

TUESDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2000		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
PLENARY		
COW	• Programme and budget (ICCD/COP(4)/2) - Regional coordination units (ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.1), - Improvement of the budgeting and reporting process (ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.2) - Performance report on the Convention's trust funds (ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.3 and Add.6) - Report on supplementary fund (ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.4 and Add. 7) - Audited financial statements (ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.5) - Status of contributions (ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.8)	- - -
CST	• Organization of work (ICCD/COP(4)/CST/1) • Establishment of a roster of experts (ICCD/COP(4)/5 and Add.1) • Survey and evaluation of networks (ICCD/COP(4)/CST/3)	• Synthesis of scientific and technical information, in particular benchmarks and indicators contained in the country Parties' reports to be examined by the CST (ICCD/COP(4)/CST/4)

TUESDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2000, cont'd		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	*3 p.m. - 6 p.m.*
AHWG*	- - -	• Implementation of the Convention - In depth review and analysis of reports submitted at COP.3 and COP.4: - Review of the implementation of the Convention by subregions *(ICCD/COP(3)/5 and ICCD/COP(4)/4)* - Reports on implementation of affected African country parties *(ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.2)*
AHGE**	- - -	- - -

WEDNESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 2000		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	*3 p.m. - 6 p.m.*
PLENARY	- - -	- - -
COW	- - -	- - -
CST	• Traditional knowledge *(ICCD/COP(4)/CST/2)*	• Early warning systems *(ICCD/COP(4)/CST/4)*
AHWG*	• Progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in Africa *(ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.5)* • Review of the reports from developed country parties, UN, IGOs, NGO and the secretariat on the assistance provided to affected African country parties *(ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.1, Add.3 and Add.4)*	• Reports on implementation of affected Asian country parties and progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes *(ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.1)*
AHGE**	- - -	- - -

THURSDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2000		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	*3 p.m. - 6 p.m.*
PLENARY	- - -	- - -
COW	- - -	- - -
CST	• Creation of ad hoc panel(s) of experts • Drafting of the report to COP	• Programme of work for CST • Adoption of recommendations to COP
AHWG*	• Reports on implementation of affected Asian country parties and progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes (follows) • Report from developed country Parties on assistance provided to affected Asian countries *(ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.4)*	• Reports on implementation of affected Latin America and the Caribbean country parties and progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes *(ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.2)*
AHGE**	- - -	- - -

FRIDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2000		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	*3 p.m. - 6 p.m.*
PLENARY	• Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official COP work programme: open dialogue session	• Report of the Committee of the Whole • Report of CST
COW	- - -	- - -
CST	- - -	- - -

FRIDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2000, cont'd		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
AHWG*	• Reports on implementation of affected Latin America and the Caribbean country parties and progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes (follows) • Report from developed country Parties on assistance provided to affected Latin America and the Caribbean countries *(ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.4)*	• Reports on implementation of Northern Mediterranean and other affected country Parties and progress made in the formulation and implementation of the regional action programme *(ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.3)* • Report from UN bodies, IGOs and NGOs on their support to affected country Parties of regions other than Africa *(ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.5)* • Adoption of conclusions and recommendations of the ad hoc working group
AHGE**	- - -	- - -

MONDAY, 18 DECEMBER 2000		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
PLENARY	• Special segment on implementation of the Convention	• Special segment on implementation of the Convention
COW	• Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies *(ICCD/COP(4)/6)*	• Global Mechanism: - Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d) of the Convention, of the report on policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it *(ICCD/COP(4)/4)* - Report on the operational strategy of the Global Mechanism *(ICCD/COP(4)/4/Add.1)*
CST	- - -	- - -

MONDAY, 18 DECEMBER 2000, cont'd		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
AHWG*	- - -	- - -
AHGE**	- - -	- - -

TUESDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2000		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
PLENARY	• Special segment on implementation of the Convention	• Special segment on implementation of the Convention
COW	• Global Mechanism: - Report of the Facilitation Committee of the Global Mechanism *(ICCD/COP(4)/4/Add.2)* • Implementation of the Convention: - Report of the GM and the secretariat on partnership agreements on NAPs, SRAPs and RAPs *(ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.6)*	• Implementation of the Convention: - Consideration of an additional regional implementation annex to the Convention *(ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.8)*
CST	- - -	- - -
AHGE**	- - -	- - -

WEDNESDAY, 20 DECEMBER 2000		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
PLENARY	• Special segment on the implementation of the Convention	• Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official COP work programme: open dialogue session

WEDNESDAY, 20 DECEMBER 2000, cont'd		
COW	• Implementation of the Convention: - Consideration of a draft declaration of commitments to enhance the implementation of the Convention *(ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.9)*	• Outstanding items: - Consideration and approval of Rules of Procedure not yet agreed upon: Rule 47 *(ICCD/COP(4)/7)*
CST	- - -	- - -
AHWG+	- - -	- - -
AHGE++	- - -	Outstanding items: - Consideration of procedure and institutional mechanism for the resolution of questions of implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention, with a view to deciding how to take this matter forward *(ICCD/COP(4)/8)*

THURSDAY, 21 DECEMBER 2000		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	*3 p.m. - 6 p.m.*
PLENARY	- - -	- - -
COW	- - -	• Programme of work for COP.5 • Adoption of the report to the Conference of the Parties
CST	- - -	- - -
AHWG+	- - -	- - -
AHGE++	• Outstanding items: - Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6 of the Convention *(ICCD/COP(4)/8)*	• Adoption of conclusions and recommendations

FRIDAY, 22 DECEMBER 2000		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
PLENARY	• Adoption of conclusions of the Committee of the Whole • Adoption of conclusions of the ad hoc group of experts	• Other actions to be taken by the COP • Report of the session
COW	To be determined	To be determined
CST	- - -	- - -
AHWG*	- - -	- - -
AHGE**	- - -	- - -

- - - - - -